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CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE

BULLETIN

142 SPARKS STREET, OTTAWA

Vol. 5 No. 4 May, 1959.

CFI Is Moving - See Page 4

TEENERS LIKE SEX IN THEIR MOVIES

by Roy Little

Toronto Film Society Newsletter No. 3 April 12, 1959.

So reads a newspaper heading in a short account of a remarkable "first" that took place in Toronto, at the Odeon Hyland, on February 28th - A Canadian Open Forum for high school students on the motion picture industry. So little coverage was given to this experiment that we feel compelled to share with you some of our chief impressions.

Who would have thought that 120 supposedly restless teenagers would not only endure two hours of discussion but still be pressing questions eagerly beyond the time limit? From 9.30 till 11.45 in the morning on a Saturday, high school students from eight Toronto secondary schools exchanged questions and comments with a panel.

Talk ranged from a discussion of censorship, through the treatment of teenagers in films, to the problems of feature film production. Questions from the a udience sparked discussion on 3D and cinerama, anti-German war films, misleading advertising, sex in advertising, Olivier's problems in attempting to produce MACBETH as a film, the Canadian production of NOW THAT APRIL'S HERE, juvenile delinquency and the films, manifestations of the current "cult of the teenager" in movies, horror films, etc., etc., (For a comprehensive report of the forum, see Canadian Film Weekly, March 11, 1959.

Sponsored by the Odeon Theatres (Canada) Limited, the forum featured a panel chaired by E. G. Forsyth, assistant general manager of Odeon Theatres, with Clyde Gilmour, Toronto Telegram; Ron Johnson, Toronto Star; Ron Leonard, publicity and advertising director for Odeon Theatres; Charles Mason, publicity and advertising director for Rank Film Distributors; and Gerald Pratley, CBC. The drawing card was a preview of A NIGHT TO REMEMBER.

The panel and audience were both in fine fettle as a sampling of comments will soon show. Opening remarks touched on violence, sex and censorship in films. In a vote by a showing of hands, the teenagers declared themselves as overwhelmingly opposed to censorship. One lad held that what is needed more than imposed restrictions is the development of standards in taste by the individual. Opinions expressed by the panel indicated that it was not in favour of complete abolition of censorship. Mr. Forsyth stated that films of quality would be made as the public demanded them. He urged his listeners to show their interest in good films - at the box office.

A 16 year old girl initiated an exchange of views about exhibition policies by questioning the lack of an art theatre which would show classics and current films of consistently high quality. One panelist stated that lack of public support makes such a policy impossible, and Mr. Gilmour opined that those who pay lip service to first-rate films do not support them in fact at the box office, Mr. Pratley argued that a successful art house has not established itself in Toronto because theatres which have tried such a policy have broken faith with the public by yanking films that have drawn relatively small audiences and replaced them with inferior, but profitable box office fare.

No discussion of the film industry could avoid reference to the inroads of TV. Mr. Forsyth reported that since the introduction of TV in Canada in 1952 attendance in theatres has fallen off 45%. Mr. Gilmour saw this as a beneficial development in that he believes that TV has taken over the role of shovelling out mediocrity thus obliging the film industry to produce a better product on the whole.

Teeners may like sex in their movies as the newspaper referred to above categorically affirms. This was not made clear during the forum; but it was manifestly evident that young people "dig" the movies and enjoy talking about the industry. The Odeon people and the panelists must be pleased with their first experience with this kind of venture. May they be encouraged to try the experiment again.

QUESTION: What steps to further film appreciation are being taken by other agencies whose interests include the appreciation of art and the development of taste and critical judgment? What programmes have been initiated by the schools and by film societies?????

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MORE NEWS ABOUT FILM FESTIVALS

STRATFORD INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

Stratford Festival will be held this year from June 29 - September 19. The International Film Festival will be held in the Avon Theatre from August 24 - September 5. Orders for tickets should be sent to the Stratford

Orders for tickets should be sent to the Stratford Shakespearean Festival of Canada, Stratford, Ontario.

EDINBURGH FILM FESTIVAL

The International importance of the Edinburgh Film Festival (August 23 - September 12) is to be highlighted this year. Edinburgh has been chosen as the stage for the presentation of the 1959 Council of Europe Awards.

Sixteen nations of Western Europe are sending their films to Edinburgh where they will be shown to a Special Council of Europe panel of judges. The two Awards are the "Council of Europe Prize" and the "Council of Europe Newsreel Prize". The titles of the winning films will be announced and the Awards will be presented at the opening gala premiere of the 13th Edinburgh International Film Festival on Sunday, August 23, 1959.

NOTE: Please let us know about YOUR Festival.

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NEW CATALOGUES

A supplement to the 1957 Australian Film catalogue is now ready. Write for your copy now.

SPECIAL FILM LISTS

Seventy-four Special Films Lists have now been prepared on various subjects including Office Practice, Hunting and Fishing, Productivity, Films for Children, etc. Two new lists, recently completed, are now ready for distribution. They are No. 73 - Public Relations and No. 74 Ethnic Films.

The Special Film Lists on Industrial Safety and Theatre Arts have just been revised. Write for your copies now.

A complete list of Special Film Lists is available.

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UNITED KINGDOM FILMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

JOURNEY INTO SPRING — 30 mins sd. col. $150.00

The coming of spring to the English countryside as revealed by detailed observation of the bird, animal and plant life of Hampshire, the home of the famous 18th Century naturalist, Rev. Gilbert White. The film illustrates many of the passages written by "the keen-eyed curate" in the classic "Natural History of Selborne".

ROUND THE ISLAND

25 mins. sd. col. $187.

Produced by British Transport Films.

A panorama of the Isle of Wight with colourful scenes of life and leisure in which both residents and holidaymakers appear at this popular island resort. There is particular reference to important sailing events, for which the island is internationally famous.

INQUISITIVE GIANT

28 mins. sd. b&w $ut.

28 mins. sd. b&w $75.

Produced by Anvil Films.

Man's knowledge of the universe has in the past been derived almost entirely from the visual study of the stars; but in recent years a new form of astronomical research has grown up based on the analysis of radio waves from outer space. This film shows the development and construction of a completely steerable radio telescope - THE INQUISITIVE GIANT.

NEW FILMS FROM AUSTRALIA AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

TWO BOYS AND A BOAT

18½ mins. sd. b&w $55.

Film shows the efforts of two boys to acquire and master a sail boat. One of the better short films for children.

THIS LAND AUSTRALIA

20 mins. sd. col. $150.

This is an overall picture of the country. It should prove particularly useful in the classroom as an introduction to the study of Australia.

Also available on a service charge basis

TWO NEW SHAKESPEAREAN FILMS

JULIUS CAESAR 90 mins.

In this independent film production of Shakespeare's great play, made in Chicago by David Bradley, imaginative direction and adaptation have turned a necessarily low budget into a positive virtue. Shakespeare remains almost intact, but the visualization is sharp and incisive, searching the dramatic film symbol to accompany and complement the poetry of the original lines.

MACBETH 85 mins.

William Shakespeare's MACBETH directed and produced by Orson Welles with a distinguished score by the Noted French contemporary composer, Jacques Ibert, conducted by Efrem Kurtz.

With Orson Welles as MacBeth, Roddy MacDowall as Malcolm, Dan O'Herlihy as Macduff, Jeannette Nolan as Lady MacBeth.

An imaginative cinematic version of the great tragedy, this MACBETH is especially notable for the brooding strength which Orson Welles brings to the interpretation of the title role and for the striking effects with which he brings to life the murky atmosphere of evil within which the personal drama seethes: the wild scenic backgrounds, the barbaric masses, the thudding movements of horsemen.

PROJECTIONIST'S MANUAL

Business Screen Magazine's ever popular AUDIO VISUAL PROJECTIONIST'S HANDBOOK is made available to Canadians by C.F.I. at its cost to us - $1.25 per copy. We have been importing this manual in quantity for several years because it is the best handbook on projection that we know. The latest edition is available now from C.F.I.

On the front of the building in which we are housed now at 142 Sparks Street, Ottawa is a plaque with the following words ---

HERE ON APRIL 7, 1868 AT THE DOOR OF HIS LODGING HOUSE THE GREAT IRISH-CANADIAN PATRIOT THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE WAS ASSASSINATED AS HE RETURNED FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS WHERE HE HAD SPOKEN FOR THE CONFEDERATION OF CANADA.----NOR DANGER NOR FEAR OF DEATH HELD HIM FROM DISCHARGE OF DUTY AND PURSUIT CF TRUTH.

NEW FILMS

OPEN TO VIEW

15 mins. sd. col.

Produced for the British Travel and Holidays Association In this short film a few of Britain's many great country houses are shown. They include Castell Coch in Wales, St. Michael's Mount on the Cornish coast, Stokesay Castle in Shropshire, Haddon Hall and Chatsworth in the Peak District of Derbyshire, Compton Wynyates near Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire, Chastleton House, Oxfordshire, Windsor Castle on the Thames, Woburn Abbey and Zoo Park, Bedfordshire, Dunvegan Castle on the Isle of Skye in Scotland and Castlecoole among the green fields of Northern Island.

BURDEN CF TRUTH

67 mins. sd. b&w $7.50

Produced for the United Steelworkers of America.

A young Negro couple has moved into a previously all-white neighborhood. Their first evening in their house a mob assembles to threaten them. They recall previous encounters with discrimination and prejudice--in the South-at college-in job-hunting. The white friend who has helped them get the house stands by them, and they determine to stick it out.

CRISIS IN LEVITTOWN, PA.

30 mins. sd. b&w

Produced by Dynamic Films, Inc. 1957.

When a Negro family moved into an all white community, a wave of protest broke out, resulting in much violence and name-calling. This film records interviews with residents. Attitudes are analyzed by Dr. Dan Dodson, of New York University. Expresses both enlightened views and such fears as devaluation of property, lack of maintenance of property by Negro owners, other Negro families seeking to enter the community, etc.

SWANS OF ABBOTSBURY 6 mins. sd. b&w

Produced by the B.B.C. Children's T.V. Unit
A pictorial description of the famous swannery of Abbotsbury in the English county of Dorset.

YOUTH IN BRITAIN 16 mins. sd. b&w

Produced by Basic Films for Central Office of Information
A story of young people growing up in Britain. Shows them at play and at work; learning from their teachers and from experience to take their place in a progressive country. There is no commentary to the film. The story is told in pictures and music.

LET'S LOOK AT BARBADOS 14 mins. sd. col.

A film on the Island of Barbados stressing its tropical beauty and the many attractions and facilities available to the tourists.

LE MERLE 5 min. sd. col. $1.50
Produced by the National Film Board, 1958.

In this film animation artist Norman McLaren imparts unusual activity to an old French-Canadian nonsense song-simple white cut-outs on pastel backgrounds provide lively illustrations as the song relates how a blackbird loses parts of his body one by one and then regains them two-and-three-fold. The folk song (Mon merle) is sung in French by the Trio Lyrique of Montreal. (Of particular appeal to film societies, film councils, and to groups interested in the art of film.

NEW ADDRESS FOR C.F.I.

AFTER JULY 1st

1762 CARLING AVE.,

Ottawa, 3, Ontario.